

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 19-38 were pending.

In the parent application, US Patent Application Serial No. 09/776,095, claims 1-18 were originally pending, however, by preliminary amendment submitted with the filing of the parent application, claims 1-18 were canceled and new claims 19-38 were presented. Claims 19-38 were subsequently subjected to a restriction requirement under 35 USC 121 as follows:

Group I: claims 19-29 and 35-38; drawn to surface mount production system; and

Group II: claims 30-34; drawn to method of programming a programmable electronic device.

In the parent application, the Group II claims were elected for examination, specifically, claims 30-34. The Group I claims, specifically claims 19-29 and 35-38, were canceled in the parent application.

Accordingly, Applicants hereby submit the preliminary amendment as filed in the parent application and a new preliminary amendment canceling claims 30-34. It is respectfully requested that the preliminary amendment as filed in the parent case be entered first, and that the new preliminary amendment then be entered.

Accordingly, this application is a divisional application of parent application 09/776,095, as only the Group I claims, claims 19-29 and 35-38, remain pending.

Appl. No.
Amdt. dated February 2, 2004
Preliminary Amendment

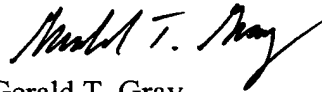
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



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